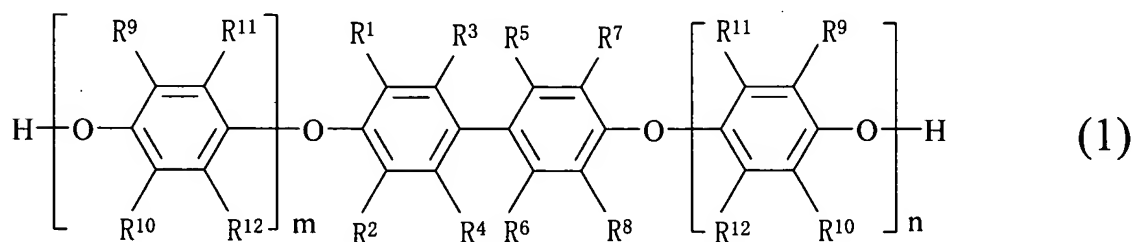


### AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A process for the production of a bifunctional phenylene ether oligomer compound having no amine adduct represented by the formula (1), which process comprises oxidatively polymerizing a bivalent phenol and a monovalent phenol in the presence of a copper-containing catalyst and a tertiary amine, a secondary amine having a secondary alkyl group, a tertiary alkyl group or an aryl group, or a mixture of both,

[Chemical formula 1]



wherein  $\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^7, \text{R}^8, \text{R}^9$  and  $\text{R}^{10}$  are the same or different and represent a halogen atom, an alkyl group having 6 or less carbon atoms or a phenyl group,  $\text{R}^4, \text{R}^5, \text{R}^6, \text{R}^{11}$  and  $\text{R}^{12}$  are the same or different and represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group having 6 or less carbon atoms or a phenyl group, and each of  $m$  and  $n$  is an integer of from 0 to 25, provided that at least one of ~~a and b~~  $m$  and  $n$  is not 0.